Adjournment: Senate convened at 12 noon, and adjourned at 6:32 p.m., until 11 a.m., on Thursday, June 12, 1997.

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS—NIH

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the National Institutes of Health, receiving testimony in behalf of funds for their respective activities from Harold Varmus, Director, and Anthony S. Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, both of the National Institutes of Health, and Earl Fox, Acting Administrator, Health Resources and Services Administration, all of the Department of Health and Human Services; F.E. Thompson, Jr., Mississippi State Department of Health, Jackson; Kim Williams, Biloxi, Mississippi; and Danyse Leon, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Subcommittee recessed subject to call.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee began markup of S. 450, to authorize funds for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999, and related proposals, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again tomorrow.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: On Tuesday, June 10, Subcommittee on Acquisition and Technology met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee of S. 450, proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: On Tuesday, June 10, Subcommittee on Seapower met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee of S. 450, proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999.

AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces met in closed session and approved for full committee consideration those provisions which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee of S. 450, proposed National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999.

ATM SURCHARGES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee held hearings to examine the practice of surcharging by banks and thrifts with regard to automated teller machines used by individuals who do not hold accounts at the institutions owning the ATMs, and S. 885, to limit fees charged by financial institutions for the use of automatic teller machines, receiving testimony from Thomas J. McCool, Associate Director, Financial Institutions and Markets Issues, General Government Division, and Lamont Kincaid, Evaluator-in-Charge, both of the General Accounting Office; Edmund Mierzwinski, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, Washington, D.C.; and Kurt Helwig and Henry Polmer, both of the Electronic Funds Transfer Association, Herndon, Virginia.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

OECD SHIPBUILDING AGREEMENT ACT

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded hearings on S. 629, to declare that the Congress approve the Agreement Respecting Normal Competitive Conditions in the Commercial Shipbuilding and Repair Industry (Shipbuilding Agreement), a reciprocal trade agreement resulting from negotiations under the auspices of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, entered into on December 21, 1994, after receiving testimony from Thomas P. Jones, Jr., Atlantic Marine Holding Company, Jacksonville, Florida, on behalf of the Shipbuilders Council of America; and Cindy Brown, American Shipbuilding Association, Arlington, Virginia.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the following bills:

H.R. 363, to extend the Electric and Magnetic Fields Research and Public Information Dissemination program through fiscal year 1998;

S. 231, to establish the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in the State of New Mexico;

S. 423, to extend the legislative authority through August 10, 2000 for the Board of Regents of Gunston Hall to establish a memorial to honor George Mason;

S. 669, to provide for the acquisition of the Plains Railroad Depot at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site; and

S. 731, to extend the legislative authority through June 30, 2002 for construction of the National Peace Garden memorial.

Also, committee completed its review of certain spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 84, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 1998 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and agreed on recommendations which it will make thereon to the Committee on the Budget.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee held oversight hearings to examine the benefits of, and needs for, the State-side Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant program, receiving testimony from Fran P. Mainella, Florida State Division of Recreation and Parks, Tallahassee, on behalf of the National Recreation and Park Association; Donald W. Murphy, California State Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, on behalf of the National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers and the Americans for Our Heritage and Recreation; Brigid Sullivan, Louisville and Jefferson County Parks Department, Louisville, Kentucky, on behalf of the Urban Park and Recreation Alliance; Bernadette Castro, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Albany; and Nancy Hogshead, Women's Sport Foundation, New York, New York.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

WEAPONS PROLIFERATION AND U.S. EXPORT CONTROLS

Committee on Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services concluded hearings to examine the role of the United States in assisting other nations through the transfer of dual-use technology, focusing on the modernization of certain militaries and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction technology and delivery systems, and the Administration's policy loosening export control restrictions on United States supercomputers, after receiving testimony from William A. Reinsch, Bureau of Export Administration, Department of Commerce; Mitchel B. Wallerstein, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense Counterproliferation Policy; Stephen D. Bryen, Delta Tech, Inc., Silver Spring, Maryland, former Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Trade Security Policy; and William Schneider, Jr., Arlington, Virginia, former Under Secretary of State.

JUDICIAL ACTIVISM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution, Federalism, and Property Rights held hearings to examine issues with regard to the constitutional role of federal judges to decide cases and controversies, focusing on the problem and impact of judicial activism, whereby federal judges decisions are based on policy preferences, receiving testimony from C. Boyden Gray, Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, former White House Counsel to President Bush; Edwin Meese III, Heritage Foundation, former Attorney General of the United States, Nebraska Attorney General Don Stenberg, Lincoln; and Wade Henderson, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, all of Washington, D.C.; Patrick Boyle, Philadelphia Police Department, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Bruce Fein, McLean, Virginia.

Hearings were recessed subject to call.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Labor and Human Resources: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Yerker Andersson, of Maryland, to be a Member of the National Council on Disability, Jose-Marie Griffiths, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, and Kathryn O'Leary Higgins, of South Dakota, to be Deputy Secretary of Labor.

Also, committee completed its review of certain spending reductions and revenue increases to meet reconciliation expenditures as imposed by H. Con. Res. 84, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 1998 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, and agreed on recommendations which it will make thereon to the Committee on the Budget.

Also, committee began consideration of S. 830, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the regulation of food, drugs, devices, and biological products, but did not complete action thereon, and will meet again on Wednesday, June 18.